

## **Narrative Summary – May 2020**

May 2020 was warmer than normal, averaging 63.5°F, 1.4° above normal (62.1°F). The warmest (1947 and 2018) averaged 68.7°F. The coolest (1984) averaged 56.0°F. There were no daily temperature records set in May 2020.

Precipitation for May 2020 totaled 0.50 inches, 98% of normal (0.51 inch). The wettest May (1972) received 2.03 inches, while the driest (1992 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2020 (January through May) is 2.13 inches, 65% of normal (3.27 inches). Precipitation for the spring season (March through May) totaled 1.05 inches, 64% of normal (1.63 inches).

The average wind speed for May 2020 was 9.9 miles per hour (mph), which was 1.1 mph above normal (8.8 mph). The windiest May (1983) averaged 10.7 mph, while the May with the lightest winds (1957) averaged 5.8 mph. The peak gust for May 2020 was from the west-southwest at 55 mph on May 2 and May 30. The record wind gust for May was 71 mph in 1948.

Some exciting weather occurred on May 30 with thunderstorms and lightning coming in two waves. The first wave occurred early in the morning with a reddish orange sunrise sky accompanied by booming thunder and frequent lightning. The second wave arrived in the afternoon with more thunder and lightning, along with heavy showers and gusty winds. Some stations on Site gusted above 60 mph.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

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**Note:** The data in this summary pertain specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.